

SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE WITH CANCER TO PRESERVE THEIR FERTILITY



Infertility is an important issue affecting quality of life for a young person who has survived cancer – yet many young people with cancer are not offered fertility-saving options prior to their treatment.

Some treatments for young people with cancer or other serious diseases can reduce fertility. The Royal Women's Hospital in Melbourne provides fertility preservation options, including ovarian and testicular tissue freezing, for young people facing the loss of their fertility for medical reasons.

For girls and women needing to commence cancer treatment without delay, freezing ovarian tissue is the only fertility preservation option.

Where sperm collection is not possible, freezing testicular tissue is the only fertility preservation option for young boys.

Healthcare services in rural, regional and remote areas of Australia can access ovarian and testicular tissue freezing for young people through the National Ovarian and Testicular Tissue Transport and Cryopreservation Service (NOTTCS). Thanks to support from Sony Foundation Australia, NOTTCS is free for people aged between 13 and 30.

HOW NOTTCS WORKS

- **1.** Any oncology centre in Australia can contact the Women's to discuss options for their patients
- If patient is eligible, a local gynaecologist, urologist or fertility specialist undertakes surgery for ovarian tissue harvest or testicular tissue extraction
- The tissue is collected and transported for processing and storage at the Women's
- 4. When the patient wants to use their tissue it can be transported back to their local hospital, or they can have the transfer done at the Women's.

FIND OUT MORE

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Visit thewomens.org.au/NOTTCS

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